

St Gabriel's

Roman Catholic High School

December 2017

Dear Parents / Carers



Learn
Love
Believe

With just a few days to go before Christmas, we are approaching the end of the Advent journey of preparation and contemplation. Preparation and contemplation are not words unique to the Christmas story however; they are relevant to every pupil in our school as they continue their journey to what we hope will be success at the end of the school year; contemplation because, at this point, we reflect on what has been and what may be to come: hard work!

This Advent, we have been influenced by the need to demonstrate social justice as a school and community, so we have collected hampers of food, toy hampers and 'cash for kids'. It has been a marvellous effort by everyone involved and so many of our local families will benefit. Thank you so much. But remember - not every family is looking forward to Christmas.

A number of visits have taken place this term and you can read about them in this term's edition of Pronuntio. The cast of Sweeney Todd feature prominently, but I am not surprised given the quality of depth of the production earlier this term. Nearly 1,000 people saw it and it was a superb effort from staff and pupils alike.

Year 11 have completed their second mock examination and will receive their results early in January. Full details of revision programmes and learning websites are known to them and to you through 'show my homework' accessed, like the other sites, via our school website.

Key messages for next term:

The standard of school uniform was superb through to the last month or so. For some, it now requires significant improvement. Remember:

- Hoodies are not allowed to be worn except during a PE lesson when PE hoodies form part of the kit
- Coats may be worn to school of course, but would ask that they are only worn outside at break and lunchtime
- Gloves and scarves may not be worn in school

Mobile phones (and headphones/wires) are not allowed during the school day. They should be kept out of sight/switched off between 8.45am and 3.20pm.

All policies are available on the school's website.

Pupils' lunch

May I remind you to ensure your child has enough money on their dinner account to purchase food from the dining room or to bring a packed lunch with them? The number of pupils who appear to have no/not enough dinner money is increasing. In the future, we plan to enable lunch payments online.

Cont.

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As you already know, Mr Loster will be Acting Head next term and Dr Hargreaves will be Acting Deputy Head. Mr Stewart will also join the leadership team as Acting Assistant Headteacher whilst maintaining his Head of Year 11 responsibilities. They are all skilled people and will all do a great job!

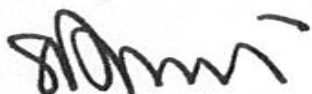
Thank you for your continued support given over the course of this year. As we wish you a happy and holy Christmas, ponder these words – just for a moment - spoken in 2002 by St John Paul II:

"To us a child is born, to us a son is given". Today the mystery of Christmas is renewed: this Child who brings salvation to the world is also born for the men and women of our own time, bringing joy and peace for all. We approach the crib with emotion; together with Mary we go to meet the long-awaited of the nations, the Redeemer of humanity."

On behalf of the governing board, staff and pupils, I wish you a happy and holy Christmas.

School re-opens on Monday 8 January at 8.45am.

Yours sincerely



S A Smith
Headteacher

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